

VZCZCXYZ0011  
RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHNC #1707 2761355  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
R 031355Z OCT 06  
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 6986  
INFO RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC  
RULSSGG/COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC  
RUEHTH/AMEMBASSY ATHENS 3682  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1242

UNCLAS NICOSIA 001707

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EWWT](#) [PBTS](#) [PHSA](#) [CY](#) [AS](#)

SUBJECT: CYPRUS: TORRES STRAIT - REQUEST TO DEMARCHE AUSTRALIAN  
COMPULSORY PILOTAGE REGIME

REFS: (A) NICOSIA 1545, (B) STATE 136187

[1](#)1. Further to Ref A, the GOC has confirmed that it supports U.S. views on the Torres Strait issue (Ref B). On October 2, Nicolas Kyriacou, of MFA's Community and International Law Department, informed us that Cyprus had submitted a Note Verbale to the Australian High Commission in Nicosia, protesting the Australian government's decision to impose compulsory pilotage through the Torres Strait.

[1](#)2. Kyriacou noted that Cyprus had always held the view that such unilateral measures were unacceptable, as they restrict international maritime activity. The GOC diplomatic mission in London, which will represent Cyprus in the October 6 IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) meeting on this issue, is open to discussions with USG representatives in order to coordinate action against Australia's decision, according to Kyriacou.

SCHLICHER